Default by Sail in Supply of Pig Iron

1643. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Steel, Authority of India Limited has been defaulting in its own agreement to supply pig iron in smaller quantity to the concerned parties;

(b) whether these agreements were reached in August, 1981;

(c) whether efforts would now be made to honour commitments, even with reduced monthly quota; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No separate agreement is entered into by SAIL with individual customers. Pig iron is supplied to the customers in accordance with the distribution guidelines formulated by Joint Plant Comittee from time to time.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Modernisation of National Textile Corporation (WBABO) Limited, Calcutta

1644. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether further discussions have been held between the contractors for modernisation and expansion programmes relating to the National Textile Corporation (WBABO) Limited, Calcutta during the last two months or so;

(b) whether any efforts are being made to get the unfinished jobs completed in order to ensure that no further loss is incurred on earlier investments;

(c) whether problems of delayed payments etc. have been identified;

(d) what efforts are being made to dissuade the contractors to proceed to take legal action against the company; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Under the proposal for the 8th Five Year Plan, a draft Corporate Plan has been worked out which takes care of the pending modernisation works.

(c) to (e) Due to paucity of funds and/or pruning of the expansion scheme, payments against bills were occasionally delayed, but no Contractor has taken any legal action so far.

1645. [*Withdrawn*]

News Item Captioned 'Bank Cheated of 10 Crores'

1646. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report in Indian Express dated the 3rd April, 1990 under the heading 'Bank cheated of Rs. 10 crores';

(b) whether it is a fact that State Bank of Hyderabad has been defrauded of Rs. 10 crores by some of its employees; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has reported that 8 cases were taken up by it for investigation against the employees of State Bank of Hyderabad among others for allegedly cheating the bank by fraudulent means to the tune of about Rs. 3.24 crores. CBI has completed the investigations in all the 8 cases and have

sent them for trial. In 2 cases the Court has convicted certain persons. One bank employee has been dismissed after departmental action.

Collapse of the deep sea fishing industry in Andhra Pradesh

1647. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central team has been sent to Andhra Pradesh to examine the causes of the collapse of the deep-sea fishing industry there;

(b) whether it is a fact that numerous representations have been made on the state of fishing industry in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) what are the reasons for neglecting a major source of employment in coastal Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) A team was sent to study the situation after reported stoppage of operations by some owners of deep sea fishing vessels.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government has taken a number of steps for development of the deep sea fishing industry. Various plan schemes have been formulated for providing assitance to deep sea fishing companies by way of interest subsidy on loans, equity participation, assistance for conversion of vessels for diversified fishing etc. Training of deep sea fishing vessel crew is being provided by Govt. through Central Institute of Fisheries and Nautical Engineering Training and also on board foreign chartered vessels and vessels of Fishery Survey of India.

Letter of Intent of Punjab Agro-Pepsi-Voltas

1648. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1336 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 1989 and state:

(a) whether Punjab Agro-Pepsi-Voltas have fulfilled all the conditions as per the Letter of Intent given to them; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons for allowing them to go ahead with soft drink and potato chips projects?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) M/s Pepsi Foods have indicated that they have already taken effective steps and have requested for conversion of the Letter of Intent into an Industrial Licence. The Government have not yet taken a decision in this regard.

Monitoring the export obligations of Pepsi Foods

1649. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the condition towards export obligation in respect of Pepsi Foods was that soft drinks will not be more than 25 per cent of the total turnover;

(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to monitor the export obligation and the soft drink turnover; and

(c) whether the monitoring will be on an yearly basis from April to March or from January to December?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) One of the